

JORDAN TIMES

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Battle of wills

THERE ARE DARK theories being whispered around the Gulf these days that the United States has wittingly allowed the Iranian crisis to fester in order to have a chance to remake the strategic balance in the Middle East in its own image. By allowing the Shah thus to crumble, with the inevitable confrontation between Islamic fundamentalists and secular constitutionalists following, the U.S. would be in a position, so this scenario goes, to exert pressure on a weakened Israel to make the final concessions needed to produce a Camp David treaty: at the same time, the argument goes, Egypt will also feel exposed to the hot winds of the Islamic revival, and Saudi Arabia will seek refuge more snugly under the American protective umbrella: a new Egyptian-Israeli-Saudi axis will be created with which the U.S. can challenge Soviet intentions along the much-discussed "crescent of crisis" stretching from the Horn of Africa to Afghanistan.

This all makes for fun conversation at cocktail parties, but even the most dedicated conspiracy theorist would have trouble swallowing this one whole. Even if the Iranian events have so far gone according to script—and it's not inconceivable to detect a manipulable quality to some of those "spontaneous" events—other parts of the puzzle just do not fit.

Everyone talks, for example, about Saudi feelings of vulnerability following the departure of the American policeman from the Gulf beat — everyone, except the Saudis themselves, that is, who show no signs of either being stampeded into acting out of the fears of others, or of wavering in their solidarity with the Arab consensus over Camp David. They have, for example, been holding talks with the Iraqis on Gulf security — a not inconsiderable development, perhaps, but not an illogical one either. Nor have the Iraqis allowed the heat of religious and revolutionary fervour burning in Iran to deter them from pursuing their rapprochement with Syria.

There are other examples as well, of people in this region valiantly swimming against the currents which geopolitical tacticians might seek to set in motion around them: the South Yemeni president has been visiting Kuwait; the Israeli Arabs, far from being cowed into submitting to the Camp David formulation, have found their Arab voices.

Yes, there are exciting new forces at work in this region, at what already was destined to be a turning point. But the ultimate message of what sometimes look like contradictory — even apprehensive — reactions to these new stimuli is that the component parts of the Middle East have resolved to take their destiny into their own hands. That is why it is wrong, now more than ever, for either superpower to try and impose its will on the region.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I Tuesday gloomily foresees an imminent Israeli aggression against Lebanon that might stretch to other Arab areas, probably the Syrian-Iraqi front of Golan.

It says, judging from statements of United Nations and Arab sources and the repeated Israeli onslaughts to depopulate South Lebanon, a catastrophe of some kind looms on the Arab horizon with South Lebanon as the starting point.

Two dangerous factors have recently affected the Middle East as far as Israel is concerned. The first is the Iranian events which led to the stoppage of Iran's oil supplies to Israel, and the second is the Syrian-Iraqi unity endeavours to face threats encircling the Arab Nation. The two factors are bound to diminish the imbalance of power between the Arabs and Israel despite the neutralisation of the Egyptian front, the Newspaper writes. The Syrian-Iraqi realisation of the dangers overshadowing South Lebanon should be translated into action as soon as possible for aborting the new Israeli plot to break up the developing union between the two countries and create a new fait accompli in the region.

AL DUSTOUR criticises the latest Egyptian "concession" of pledging to supply Israel with oil from Sinai. It says while Israel is adamantly sticking to its three NO's — no withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, no halting of settlements and no right for the Palestinian people to determine their future—Cairo, it appears, is working speedily to sign a peace treaty with Israel by President Anwar Sadat's offer of Sinai's oil in place of the Iranian oil supply that has been cut off.

President Sadat's oil pledge is the more vexing and astonishing because it was not made conditional to Israel's withdrawal first from all occupied Arab territories, including Arab Jerusalem, or self-determination for the Palestinians and establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region, the newspaper says.

In his daily column "Words" in Al Ra'i Juma'a Hammad calls on the Arabs to rely on their own, not on foreign, technology and experience in setting up their arms industries.

He says that successful arms production should not depend on licences from this or that country or firm. Rather it should be self-produced and secret to a reasonable extent. Mr. Hammad points out that assistance may be obtained from individual experts including Arab talents that are scattered in many arms factories in the world.

The columnist was referring to press reports yesterday that the Arab Organisation for Industrialisation's production will be available for sale by next September, including American-licensed jeeps and British-licensed "Swingfire" rockets. This is in addition to agreements for production of helicopters and electronics plants with the permission or participation of western firms.

On no account should all this be considered pure Arab production, Mr. Hammad says. "We shall be waiting for the day when we see pure Arab arms production in Arab hands and in trenches, not only on the pages of the newspapers."

Action group for UNRWA employees leaves for Vienna

AMMAN, Feb. 6 (J.T.)—The action group representing employees of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) left here yesterday for Vienna for talks with the UNRWA Commissioner General Thomas McElhiney beginning Thursday.

The group made a stopover in Beirut where they reviewed development in the situation and debated a programme for talks with the commissioner general.

The action group had suspended an open strike which had been set for Feb. 10 and hopes that before entering into negotiations in response to mediation by the U.N. Secretary General Dr. Kurt Waldheim, the latter will delegate a representative to take part in the Vienna deliberations and to submit a report to the secretary general on the outcome of the discussions.

At the same time the Jordanian government has instructed Jordan's permanent representative at the U.N. Dr. Hazem Nusseibeh to urge Dr. Waldheim to send a delegate to Vienna.

The action group is expected to discuss with the commissioner general the reimbursement of money deducted by UNRWA from the salaries of the employees for work stoppages last year. The group will also discuss withdrawal of the compatibility study, non-reduction of UNRWA rations for Palestinian refugees and amelioration of employees conditions.

The employees are protesting the proposed phasing out of their cost of living allowances until their salaries become comparable to those of local government employees. They demand to be compared to other U.N. employees, not civil servants in the countries where they work. They are also protesting cuts in food rations and reductions in educational services to the refugees.

Delegates of countries hosting refugees study UNRWA employees demands

AMMAN, Feb. 6 (JNA)—A conference of representatives of countries hosting Palestinian refugees today urged that the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) be kept free of political pressures that hinder its work.

The conference also suggested urgently contacting U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to advise UNRWA's commissioner general to cancel any reduction in services to the refugees and to consult him and the U.N. on such matters.

Financial difficulties have caused food rations to be cut and, according to UNRWA acting Commissioner General Alan Brown, there will be a deficit this year of \$29 million.

The conference, which concluded its meeting here today, appealed to the world community, countries and organisations to double their contributions to UNRWA in order to avoid the serious results of continuing the present situation. It also appealed to Dr. Waldheim to make extraordinary efforts to remedy the situation.

The conference reviewed the demands of UNRWA employees and listened to statements and clarification by the action group representing the employees. The conference recommended support for their demands and continued efforts to treat these demands in a positive and just manner.

The conference further discussed matters related to Palestinians in the occupied areas including the property of Palestinian refugees as well as Israel's threats to turn Arab inhabitants in these areas into new refugees. Measures to be taken to foil this plan, Israel's settlement policy, expropriation of Arab land and

violation of holy places were also discussed and appropriate recommendations taken. Discussions also dealt with the issue of financing the educational fund for Palestinian students in the occupied territories.

The week-long meeting was attended by delegations from Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Lebanon, the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the General Secretariat of the Arab League.

King Hussein visits Army headquarters

AMMAN, Feb. 6 (JNA)—His Majesty King Hussein, the supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, today called at the Army Headquarters here and discussed with the Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zeid Ibn Shaker a number of matters connected with the armed forces.

Coming & Going

University of Jordan dean returns from Cairo

AMMAN, Feb. 6 (JNA)—The Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Jordan Dr. Rasheed Al Diqr returned here today at the end of a several-day visit to Cairo. He held talks with officials at the universities of Cairo and 'Ein Shams on prospects of cooperation between them, and the University of Jordan. Preparations are underway at the Faculty of Law of the university for launching courses of post graduate studies expected to begin at the start of the next academic year, Dr. Diqr said.

Agricultural official back from Riyadh

AMMAN, Feb. 6 (JNA)—Director of agricultural services at the Ministry of Agriculture Jawad Dajani returned here today at the end of a week-long visit to Saudi Arabia. In talks with officials at the Ministry of Agriculture in Riyadh he was briefed on measures adopted by Saudi Arabia to fight locusts.

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WHAT'S GOING ON

Children's Art

The Haya Arts Centre presents an exhibition of Jordanian children's paintings and Indian children's hand crafts. The exhibition is open during regular hours.

Art Exhibit

An exhibition of paintings by Mohammad Moustafa is on display at the Art Gallery, Ministry of Culture and Youth, open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Photo Exhibit

An exhibition of photos depicting two cities in the U.S.S.R., Novgorod and Pskov, is on display at the Soviet Cultural Centre during regular hours.

Painting Exhibit

The British Council presents an exhibition of watercolours and oil paintings by Clara Metzbagopian. Open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and during regular hours in the afternoon.

Book Exhibit

An exhibition of British medical journals is on display in the Reading Room of the British Council library. Open during regular library hours.

Painting and Drawing Exhibit

An exhibition of paintings and drawings by Ann Wiegand is on display at the American Centre. Open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

German Art Exhibit

The Goethe Institute presents a photographic survey of West German contemporary art entitled "Photography as Documentation." Open during regular hours.

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ECONOSCOPE

The U.S. dollar crisis

By Jawad Ahmad

It is said that some economists suggested as early as President Kennedy's administration in the early sixties that the U.S. dollar be devalued. "Blasphemy," was the reaction to that untimely proposal. Yet, some suggested at the time that unrequited U.S. transfers should be limited by the amount of surplus in the balance of trade. This suggestion was endorsed to some degree, but had to be forsaken when the course of the Vietnam war took a sharp turn during the Johnson administration and later on.

When President Nixon decided to devalue the dollar in 1971 and 1972, it was argued that the weakness of the dollar was strictly a monetary phenomenon and not a real one; in other words, the glut of dollars on the Eurodollar market caused the decline in the currency's value.

Others argued otherwise. They felt that the dollar's basic problem stems from the weakness of the productive effort inside the U.S. They advocated the "productivity theory" as an explanation for the inability of the U.S. to sell its products in quantities sufficient to repatriate the expatriate dollars. In other words, the decline in U.S. productivity made its commodity exports more expensive and less competitive on the inter-

national market.

It seems that the issue inside the U.S. is political one; and thus there was no way to concede this productivity theory. Officially that other currencies: the West German mark, the Swiss franc, the Japanese yen, etc., were valued. Thus it was the duty of the dollar to support those currencies to support the dollar.

Nowadays we hear arguments such as the Iranian events are supposed to bolster the dollar's comparative position. This is supported in the following way: those countries depend on Iranian oil will be denied this oil will therefore suffer from an energy crisis which will boost their production costs.

Another theory says that the quality of goods is declining, in a world which is becoming increasingly quality-conscious. This is why efforts of the U.S. to control prices are not working in a market which is more sensitive to price rather than price fluctuations.

The fact remains that the U.S. dollar, steady, its strength depends on whether officials and policy-makers come to realise that and they alone, can bring the dollar out of its current crisis. This can be done by accepting the fact that U.S. goods must reveal improved quality and stability in prices.



Queen Noor inspects hospital

AMMAN, Feb. 6 (JNA)—Her Majesty Queen Noor today inspected Al Bashir Hospital and

the adjoining rehabilitation centre which has special sections for children and physiotherapy treatment.

The Queen was the first to visit the medical and services offered patients.

Ministry of Health to build 3 hospitals

AMMAN, Feb. 6 (JNA)—Minister of Health Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh said today during a meeting with health department directors that the ministry is planning on building a 300 bed hospital at Al Basheer complex in Amman, a similar one in Irbid, and a 200 bed hospital in Zarqa. The ministry is also launching medical centres in Zarqa, Al Quweirah, Al Areeed and Ajloun, he added.

The minister said that the ministry is promoting mother and child care all over Jordan and especially in the Governorate of Ma'an and the northern Badia. Five health centres for schools will be opened in the near future in different places of Jordan. He added that inoculation for school children will start next month.

On the health insurance system which went into effect at the beginning of this year, the minister

explained that the possession of health cards entitling them to medical treatment would be for the services the government hospital people who do not have insurance card should certificate from the social affairs department they are authorised by that they are unable to want free medical treatment.

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Jordan in History: Are you interested in flints?

This is part two in a series

written by Professor

Nicola A. Ziadeh

By Professor Nicola A. Ziadeh

Why should anyone be interested in flints? Indeed why should those dark greyish glittering stones of quartzite nature and of different shapes which are strewn all over the place attract attention? Yet the number of people who are professionally or amateurishly concerned with flints, and who purposely look for them, especially in caves, on river banks, on lake shores and on hills (hills) has been increasing for some time.

The reason is that those flints and similar stone tools reveal the work done by our early ancestors. Man, on first emerging into his manhood, resorted to whatever he could lay his hands on for food. He gathered various kinds of plants and fruits with which nature provided him. He was a food gatherer. But this was not all—there were animals and man hunted them to obtain his meat; hence he was both food gatherer and hunter. In this way he subsisted for a long long period—so long that it is estimated to have covered over 90 per cent of his existence on this earth.

During this period and the two shorter periods which followed, man used "stones" for his implements, weapons and instruments—pebbles, flakes, blades. Flints proved to be ready at hand in many places, sharper and even better shaped instruments could be made out of them through chipping, flaking or grinding. It is true that man must have resorted to other materials for the manufacture of his implements, such as wood or bone, but the former is perishable and the latter is not that pliable in the hands of a manufacturer. Places where man lived during those thousands of years, whether continually on the move or temporarily settled or

semi-permanently established have been, for over a century now, examined by archaeologists who have collected, studied, classified and, more earnestly, argued about the results of their finds. To the layman, interested though he might be in 'learning' from them, their language sounds so argumentative that one is lost, or else loses his patience.

Probably the most confusing in their parlance is the variety of labels and names they have affixed to the various stages of man's development. It is true that the gaps in these 'nomenclatures' is closing, but it is not likely that the layman would not continue to be confused.

Another reason for the differences of interpretations among archaeologists is an erroneous conception that stages or ages in man's cultural development followed each other in a regular 'sequence' of time. But nowadays they know that two cultural patterns which have some similarity could be close neighbours or widely separated in time or space or both. They have accepted the argument that similarity did not necessarily mean contemporaneity.

It may not be a bad idea if the variety of cultural ages, in so far as Jordan and the immediate neighbouring countries are concerned, are tabulated here for the convenience of the reader. Let us keep in mind, however, that overlapping is present in almost every case. Let us think of the lines separating the ages not as sharp boundaries but as broad bands of time indicated on both sides by various factors and influences.

Paleolithic Age 400 000 (?)—101 000
Mesolithic Age (12 000?) 10 000 7 000

Neolithic Age
Pre-Pottery 7000-5000
Pottery 5000-4000
Chalcolithic Age 4000-3200
Bronze Age 3200-1200
Iron Age 1200-330 B.C.

There is room here for some general observations, which will

be of some help further understanding of the Jordanian scene. Implements were made of available materials, basalt, flint and other stones. Pebbles were first used then bifacial flint flakes which were more effective especially for hunting big game. Finer blades were developed towards the end of the Paleolithic Age, and microliths, used with long wooden handles, or even with archery, seem to have come into use during the Neolithic Age: they might have been in use during the Mesolithic Age, an age which is considered by prehistorians to be a transitional period. The use of bones and wood, even during the Paleolithic Age, as has already been indicated, is not all excluded by archaeologists.

Habitat of the Stone Age people changed according to weather conditions or to presence of materials for subsistence. The earliest sites explored show that very early man lived in the open air—his camps prove this. Caves were resorted to in numerous parts of the world. The best known examples in our part of the world are the caves of Mount Carmel, Zuttiya (near Sea of Galilee) and Qafza, in the neighbourhood of Nazareth. Hamlets and caves became more fashionable when early farming appeared, and man was tied down somewhat to the land.

Means of subsistence were probably the most important single factor which determined the cultural and social behaviour of man. Hunting and food gathering were the only sources of securing subsistence. The nature of fauna in one area or another was effective in the development of implements. According to many scholars the last phase of the Paleolithic Age witnessed a technological revolution in the making of instruments and weapons, and an accelerated pace of inventions became apparent.

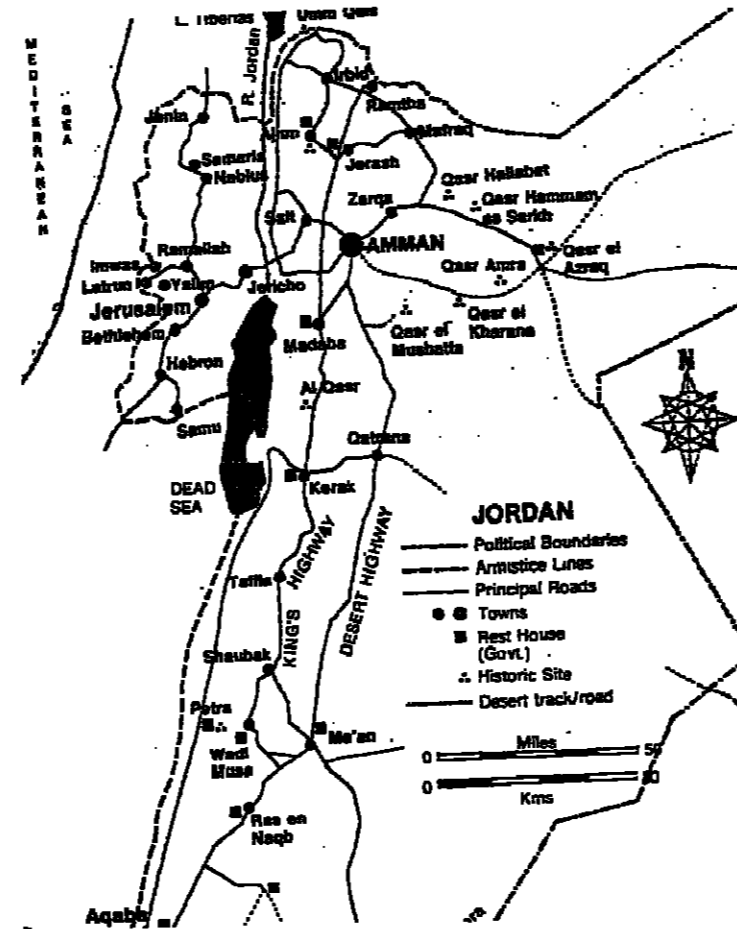
In the Mesolithic period fishing seems to be the predominant source of providing man with his needs. This, needless to say, limited the areas where man could exist comfortably; hence some people were driven to marginal areas, where they took to pastoralism.

Our best example in Jordan is Kilwa, in the south of the country and its rock engravings.

Some time about 14 000 B.C. food production began. But these activities were only to support other ways of securing food. However, this meant that man was tied down to the land, at least seasonally at the start. Fixity to the land is illustrated by finds from the Mesolithic Age. By about 8000 B.C. food production activities became dominant. Not that man gave up hunting or fishing, but agriculture and animal husbandry became his main occupation. Animal husbandry resulted from domestication of animals.

The dog was probably the first animal to be domesticated, to be followed by the goat and the sheep (Jericho c. 8000-7000 B.C.). As Arnold Toynbee points out it was not only the grinding of tools, but agriculture and animal husbandry which must be reckoned with as means of cultural developments of man. He argues that when man became acquainted with agriculture and domesticated animals, he could make a choice of the plants and animals he wanted to rear. Thus human selection substituted natural selection, man was becoming master of his circumstances.

Agricultural communities made their appearance with the growth



of agriculture and animal husbandry. By the middle of the fifth millennium B.C. villages spread in the Fertile Crescent. Such villages, as existed in the Neolithic Age, were small in area, composed of self-sufficient communities. Because the agricultural techniques of such communities were primitive, the land would be exhausted in a comparatively short time. This led to continual movement of villagers, whenever land permitted. Archaeologists of earlier periods were deceived by such a phenomenon as to think that many villages, which were in reality successor developments in nearby areas, had existed at the same time, and had therefore given many an area more villages and larger population than further enquiries justified. This did not apply only to the Stone Age, but to Bronze and Iron Ages as well. The Jordan Valley and the Sea of Galilee area are good examples of this early deception.

Around 5000 B.C. man began the manufacture of pottery. This was so important that prehistorians differentiate consciously between the sub-periods of the Neolithic Age—Pre-Pottery and Pottery. Not only was pottery useful for man throughout his existence as it gave him various types of utensils and enabled him to express himself artistically; but pottery is our best material criterion for studying prehistoric chronology of man. Vessels made of pottery are destructible at worst but not perishable. Hence they have persisted either as wholes or as sherds. We owe the use of pottery as a comparative chronological rod to Sir Flinders Petrie.

Metallurgy seems to have made its appearance about 4000 B.C., most probably with copper. But this metal was not abundant enough at the beginning to substitute for stone. The Chalcolithic Age saw the use of both copper and stone for the purpose of manufacturing implements. As it was, even when bronze was introduced, man did not abandon the use of stone completely. It must be remembered that copper, and other metals as well, are not as common as stone; hence the use of copper outside areas where it is mined means that copper had been transported. This is probably the beginning of trade.

Dame Kathleen Kenyon has

drawn our attention to a very interesting phenomenon concerning the pace of development in the various ages. The following table shows her views.

The Paleolithic Age lasted almost 500 000 years.
The Neolithic Age lasted for about 5000 years.
The Bronze Age had a span of about 2000 years.
The Iron Age's period was about 500 years.

It has been observed by many students of prehistory that in the earlier stages of the Paleolithic Age technological progress was slow and feeble. Innovation was infrequent and transmission was slow. Hence there was some sort of uniformity in the cultures of societies. With the coming of the technological revolution of the late Paleolithic and later, improvement of tools was accelerated, but transmission of such innovations could not catch up with the process of improvement. Hence differentiation became characteristic of cultures and varieties appeared, which might have covered a large area but were regional in nature.

Travellers had, for a long time, observed the existence in many parts of Syria of mounds that were, not exactly natural in shape. These were called by local people tells (tell, Arabic for hill, plural, tul).

But beyond the fact that such observations were made nothing was done. Gradually it came to be known that such tells were nothing but artificial mounds which contained debris of numerous successful settlements which were superimposed one over the other. Survey excavation, which meant only scratching the surface, yielded in many cases surprising amounts of flint implements, and, more interestingly, pottery sherds.

Both finds acted as indicators of the former presence of people and, thus, cultures. It was only when the spade came to the help of archaeologists that these tells revealed the nature of the settlements and the cultures which developed there. But then archaeologists often have either a sixth sense or luck or both. For they looked for material remains in caves and other places.

Tells abound in Syria, with areas that are richer than others. The southern parts of Jordan, for

example, are poor in such tells; but they are not completely excluded.

During the past fifty years or so archaeologists have uncovered a number of places where early man has left his remains in Palestine, Lebanon, Syria and Jordan. Some places have received more attention than others. An attempt will be made here to sum up such finds as excavations proceed. May it be remembered that here we are dealing only with the earliest stages.

The earliest habitats and cultural remains found in the area come from Palestine. The Mount Carmel area has revealed that man's remains are probably 200,000 years old. This culture has been called Tabun Culture, after the cave in which it was found.

Um Qafata, in the desert areas to the east of Jerusalem mountains, has revealed something approximate in time and character. Magharet az-Zuttiya, near the Sea of Galilee, is a third. Of a later period, probably about 100,000 or so years old, are the finds of Yabrud, to the north of Damascus. Other places include Jabal Qafza, near Nazareth, Adhul in Southern Lebanon, Qasr al-Azraq and a rock shelter near Petra, both in Jordan. Wadi Dhubbay in the Syro-Arabian Desert and Jurf al-Ajla, near Palmyra.

Generally speaking, the observations made on the Paleolithic Age cultures above, apply to the finding here—pebble culture, bifacial hand-axes, blade industry and the like. The differences are of interest to the specialist, whose arguments and discussions leave us more confused after reading than before doing so.

Habitats of those men are similar. Open camps, caves, river banks and shores of lakes were inhabited, depending on climatic conditions. The caves of Mount Carmel show that man occupied them for a long time; this is clear from the depths of remains embedded in the successive layers of earth. Bones found in the caves, and other habitats, suggest that hunting was the dominant source of livelihood; plants must have been utilized, but to lesser degree. This can be explained on two scores—firstly that such remains, having perished, could not be retrieved and secondly plant life depended on seasonal climatic conditions.

Human remains, skulls and skeletal, were found in many of the caves, and scholars have considered them seriously. But they have not come to any definite conclusions on the matter. Probably more such finds are needed, and hoped for, before any semi-final judgement can be passed.

When we come to the Mesolithic—Neolithic Ages, we seem to be on some surer ground. Here the Natufian Culture, named after Wadi Natuf in Palestine, has been found in a number of places—in Jericho, Huleh areas, in particular. This culture displays here the same characteristics referred to earlier, concerning the transitional nature of the period. Hunting was still resorted to, but some dependence on food producing had begun. A good example comes from Jericho (9000-8000 B.C.). A fixity of settlement, depending mainly on water sources, seems to have made its appearance.

Implements had improved gradually and finally microliths became abundant side by side with blades. The discovery of a sickle, although more likely to be con-



Natufian tools from Mount Carmel in Palestine

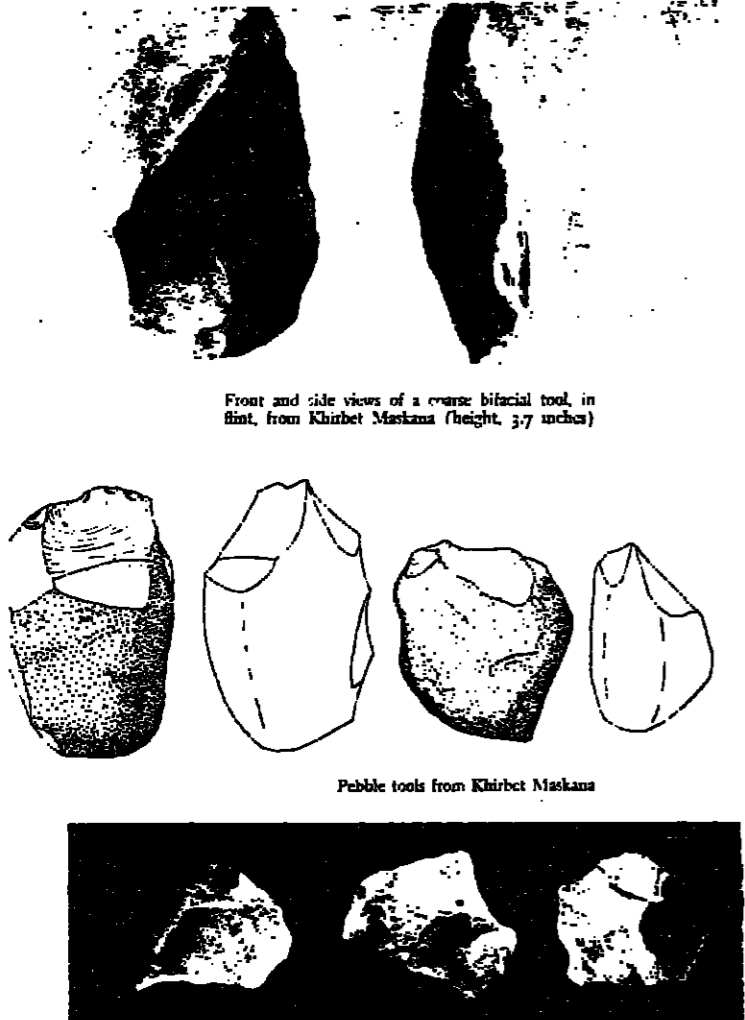
nected with agricultural experiments, can also be interpreted as an instrument to be used for cutting wild plants!

Villages grew numerous during the Neolithic Age, and many of them have been found in Palestine and Jordan—Jericho and Beida are examples which will be discussed in the next article.

Burial practices seem to be of some serious concern to the Natufian man. Dead were buried beneath the area inhabited by the living.

The following is a summary of what Professor J.G.D. Clark

wrote about the Neolithic and most of the Mesolithic of Western Asia, the Neolithic (to small new) of the Middle East, the Neolithic and southern Anatolia, settled both in caves and open. They were and tipped their and rolled. They were, Cereals were them, but it is clear they were wild or back to my question interested in flints?



Front and side views of a crescent bifacial tool, flint, from Khirbet Maskana (height, 3.7 inches)

Pebble tools from Khirbet Maskana



Upper Paleolithic stage flints from Ta'ban and Y

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FORECAST FOR WED., FEB. 7, 1979

Your **Daily HOROSCOPE**

from the CARROLL BRIGHTER INSTITUTE

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Handle correspondence and other communications and then get busy around your home, make improvements, etc. Drive with care. Study in to new interests.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You have pressing financial matters which need immediate attention. Recheck reports and statements for possible errors.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Improve appearance and health and then out to the important activities that will advance your position in life. Show that you are clever in monetary matters.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) A personal problem should be handled intelligently. Listen to what a good adviser has to suggest regarding friends.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) A pal could be disappointing to take in your stride and keep busy at solving own problems. Plan how to make your routines work out more efficiently.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Handle a community problem wisely and then you can get at pressing personal affairs. Handle credit matters wisely. See good friends later.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Keep your focus on a new interest. Handle routines with a clear mind. This is not the right time for a trip you have in mind.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Pay bills first and then delve into progressive projects and make big headway. Don't neglect to do little errands for loved ones. Show affection for friends also.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Try to find out what partners expect of you and then carry through with needed work. A community matter is upsetting early but evening it all works out fine. Study it well.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Handle odds and ends of work neatly and then be with partners to other interests. Take better care of health. Add to savings account.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Make plans for recreation early so that you can later get work done knowing that all is well arranged. Try to please mate too. Avoid a problemaker.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Take care of home affairs before you go off for a good time with friends. Please kinest and then work on your finest talents and improve them. Dress well, dine well!

Fashion's doyenne



Following her triumphs in the United States and Italy, Madame Gres, doyenne of Paris couturiers, recently presented her 1978-79 collection, plus a retrospective of her styles of the past 30 years, during a tour of Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya in Japan. Her first visit to Japan was received with wide acclaim. The Tokyo presentation was specially choreographed by Norbert Schmitt and Bernard Trux. The couturier to the Japanese royal family called it "an art lesson."

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DRECY

YIFFT

HAREMM

COSHOL



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: A

Yesterday's Jumbles: TULIP HUMAN UNHOOK JARGON
Answer: How to put "pressure" on someone you love—HUG HIM

THE BETTER HALF

By [unclear]



Here's something to brighten your day, Mrs. [unclear] — postcards from your friends wintering in Florida, California and Acapulco.

THE Daily Crossword

by Sophie Fierman

ACROSS

- 1 Place
- 5 Surfers
- 10 Young horse
- 14 Sharif
- 15 Stop on —
- 16 Exchange premium
- 17 Mother of —
- 18 Apollo
- 19 Allow entrance
- 20 Verne hero
- 21 Emotional shock
- 22 Words of agreement
- 24 Ready and willing
- 26 Missile housing
- 27 Long overdue
- 31 Dicker
- 35 Scourged off
- 36 Race tracks
- 38 Word of cheer
- 39 Swamp
- 40 Pillar
- 41 Footlike part
- 42 Billfold
- 43 Vigorous
- 44 "A House is not —"
- 46 Method
- 48 Agreement phrase, familiarly
- 50 Scored, in tennis
- 52 Carriage
- 53 Conclude the deal
- 57 Travolta vehicle
- 61 Harness part
- 62 Working region
- 65 At any time
- 66 Parking adjunct
- 67 Press
- 68 Paper money
- 69 Kefauver
- 70 Cloak
- 73 Tenth: com. form
- 74 Chinese gelatin
- 75 Grand
- 76 Decreases
- 78 Those who egg on
- 81 Sand hills
- 83 Sharpen
- 84 Enthusia
- 85 Gayer voice
- 86 Golf stroke
- 88 Air
- 89 Logical
- 90 Frankness
- 91 Molding
- 92 Bean
- 93 Implement
- 94 Spouse

DOWN

- 1 Leave one's party
- 2 Part of an ephah
- 3 — Hari
- 4 Fetched
- 5 Spiced sausage
- 6 French drink
- 7 Small monkey
- 8 Exudes
- 9 Logical
- 10 Frankness
- 11 Molding
- 12 Bean
- 13 Implement
- 21 Spouse

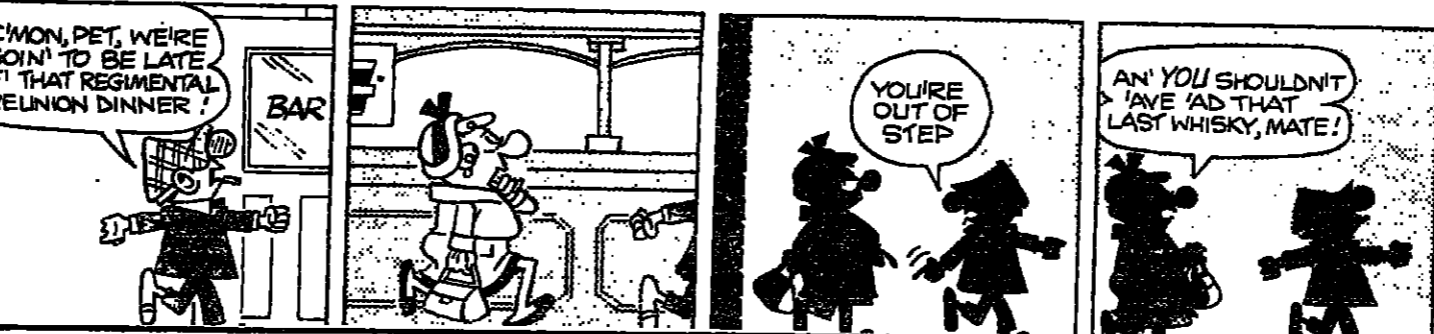
Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

12/23/78

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Flintstones



FOREIGN BRIDGE

Y CHARLES H. COHEN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1978 by Chicago Tribune

The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ 1 ♠
Dble. Pass ?
What action do you take?

—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KJ10 ♣Q7 ♠K1053
right-hand opponent as the bidding with one round. What action do you take?

—East-West vulnerable, South you hold:
♠962 ♣KJ83 ♠KQ105
bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
Dble. ?
What action do you take?

—As South, vulnerable, hold:
♠93 ♠873 ♠AK ♠KQ984
bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass
Pass ?
What do you bid now?

—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠93 ♠873 ♠AK ♠KQ984
bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠K72 ♣Q9653 ♠Q874 ♠6
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 1 NT ?
What action do you take?
Q.6—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠5 ♠Q1072 ♠KJ8762 ♠83
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
3 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.7—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KJ4 ♠972 ♠KJ6 ♠J1094
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?

Q.8—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠KJ4 ♠972 ♠KJ6 ♠J1094
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3
5:30 Quran
5:45 Cartoons
6:00 News in French
6:20 French language
6:30 News in Hebrew
6:40 Comedy
7:00 Youssef and Zaki
7:30 Musical instruments
7:50 News in Arabic
8:00 Arabic series
8:40 Documentary (World War)
9:15 The American Girls
10:15 News in Arabic

CHANNEL 4
6:30 French programme
7:00 News in French
7:30 News in Hebrew
8:30 Comedy
9:10 Cartoons
10:00 News in English
10:15 The American Girls

GMT
03:30 The Breakfast Show
06:30 News, pop music, features, letters, questions.
17:00 News Roundup: reports, opinions, analyses.
17:30 Dailies
18:40 Special English, news, feature "Space and Man."
18:50 News Week USA
19:00 News Roundup: reports, opinions, analyses.
19:30 VOX Magazine: American science, culture, letters.
20:00 Special English: news.
20:15 News USA (Haza)
21:00 VOX World Report
22:00 News, Correspondents' reports, background features, media comments, analyses.

RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Sign on
7:01 Morning show
7:30 News Bulletin
7:40 Morning show
10:00 News summary
10:30 30 minute theatre
11:00 Signing off
12:00 Signing on and new headlines
12:03 Radio theatre
12:30 News summary
13:03 Radio theatre

14:00 News bulletin
14:10 Music
14:30 Stars unlimited
15:00 Concert hour
16:00 News summary
16:03 Easy listening
16:30 Pedagogical pop
17:00 30 minutes of jazz
17:30 Radio theatre
18:00 News summary
18:03 Hay, Umm Yaghan
18:30 As I see it (Umm Kuse)
19:00 News Bulletin
19:10 News reports
19:30 Sign off

BBC RADIO

GMT
04:00 Newscast
04:30 The Songs of Schubert
04:45 Letter from London, Reflections
05:00 News: 24 Hours
05:30 Sarah Ward
05:45 World Today
06:00 Newscast
06:30 Jazz for the Asking
07:00 News: 24 Hours
07:30 Sarah Ward
07:45 Report on Religion
08:00 News: Reflections
09:00 News: Press Review
09:15 World Today
11:30 Evening World
12:00 Radio Newscast
12:15 Take it or leave it
12:45 Sports Round-up
13:00 News: 24 Hours

13:30 World Radio Club
13:45 A Jolly Good Show
14:30 Talkabout
15:00 Radio Newscast
15:30 News: Commentary
16:15 The World of Ballet
16:45 World Today
17:00 News: Book Choice
17:15 Discovery
17:45 Sports Round-up
18:00 News: News about Britain
18:10 Report on Religion
18:30 Top Twenty
19:00 Outlook, News Summary
19:30 Stock Market
19:45 Encore
20:00 News: 24 Hours
20:30 A Taste of Home
21:00 Report on Religion
21:15 Network U.K.
21:30 King's College Choir
22:00 News: World Today
22:35 Book Choice, Reflections
22:45 Sports Round-up
23:00 News: Commentary

VOICE OF AMERICA

19:00 News Roundup: reports, opinions, analyses.
19:30 VOX Magazine: American science, culture, letters.
20:00 Special English: news.
20:15 News USA (Haza)
21:00 VOX World Report
22:00 News, Correspondents' reports, background features, media comments, analyses.

CULTURAL CENTRES (Amman)

American Centre Tel. 41520
British Council Tel. 2491-4
French Cultural Centre Tel. 3612-7
German Institute Tel. 41903
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 44205
Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 44205
Hava Arts Centre Tel. 45145
Hoson Youth Club Tel. 41741
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 41741
Amman Municipal Library Tel. 42421
University of Jordan Library Tel. 42411
Uttel Museum Tel. 26101
Folklore Museum Tel. 26141

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Amman)

Ambulance (government) Tel. 7511
Civil defence rescue Tel. 7511
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergencies) Tel. 3612-7
Municipal water service (emergencies) Tel. 3711-3
Police headquarters Tel. 3711-3
Najdah saving patrol (voice phone English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergencies Tel. 21111, 37111
Airport information (ALIA) Tel. 55205
Jordan Television Tel. 21111
Radio, English Section Tel. 21111
Fire station Tel. 21111
Fire headquarters Tel. 22001

CULTURAL CENTRES (Damascus)

Al Hama Theatre Tel. 226-448
Al Shab Art Gallery Tel. 226-448
American Centre Tel. 226-448
Arabic Cultural Centre Tel. 226-448
Bulgarian Cultural Centre Tel. 552-901
British Cultural Centre Tel. 334-944
Deutscher Demokratischer Kultur-Zentrum Tel. 334-944
French Cultural Centre Tel. 226-448
Kabham Theatre Tel. 226-448
National Museum Tel. 114-854
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 125-650
Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 334-944
Uttel Museum Tel. 111-318
Zahara Public Library Tel. 111-318

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Damascus)

Ambulance (government) Tel. 90
Chamber of Commerce Tel. 118-339
Electric Power Co. (repair) Tel. 234-487
Fire headquarters Tel. 95-97
Information Tel. 95-97
Municipal water service Tel. 113-500

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Rejecting Japanese protest USSR goes ahead with missile tests

SAPPORO, Japan, Feb. 6 (R)—The Soviet Union, brushing aside a Japanese protest, has gone ahead with missile tests near disputed Pacific islands northeast of here, senior Japanese military sources said today.

They said ships of the 775-vessel Soviet Pacific fleet were firing the anti-ship missiles into an ocean target area near Etorofu, in the Kurile island chain.

Etorofu is one of four Kurile islands claimed by Japan but held by the Soviet Union since the end of World War Two.

Last Saturday the Japanese Embassy in Moscow protested at plans for the week-long missile tests, which the Soviet Union announced in advance. But Moscow rejected the protest, saying Etorofu was Soviet territory.

The sources, at the headquarters of Japan's northern

army, which is responsible for defending Japan's northernmost island of Hokkaido, declined to give further details of the tests.

But they repeated earlier Japanese reports that the Soviet Union was strengthening its military forces on the islands, one of which, Kunashiri, is close enough to be seen from the north Hokkaido coast.

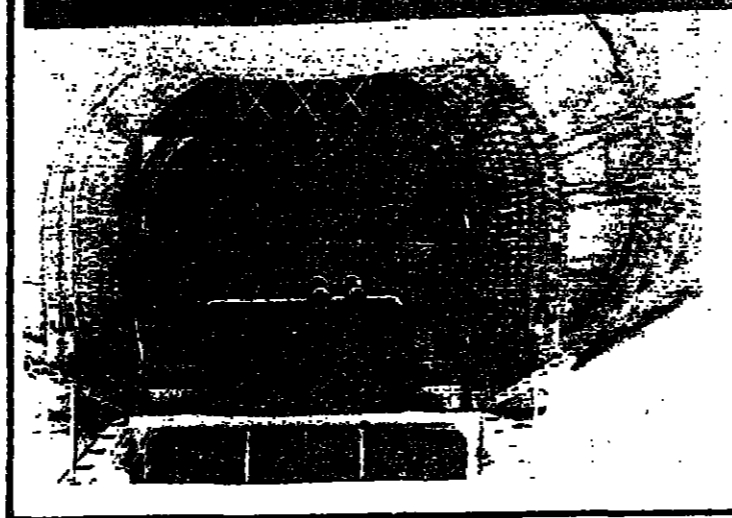
Moscow's refusal to return the islands has blocked conclusion of a Soviet-Japanese peace treaty, and yesterday Japan protested to Moscow about the alleged build-up on the islands.

This was rejected by the Russians, who said the Japanese were trying to interfere in Soviet domestic affairs.

The cooling of Japanese-Soviet relations has coincided with an unofficial visit to Japan by Chinese Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping, who arrived today on his way home from the United States.

Last week, Japanese defence agency sources said the Soviet Union since last May had sent some 4,000 men to Etorofu and Kunashiri. This meant that about 6,000 were now based on the islands.

The sources here said that troops appeared to be an army unit with tanks, artillery and other sophisticated weaponry. But they said that, despite reports of runways at Soviet fighter bases being lengthened, no new kinds of aircraft had been sent to the islands.



Transport plane is now full-fledged firefighter

Transall, the Luftwaffe and Nato transport command aircraft, has been refitted for a civilian rescue role. An aerospace company in Hamburg, West Germany, which services Luftwaffe Transalls, has designed for the Bonn Research Ministry a firefighting kit with which the Transall can be refitted swiftly and inexpensively as a peaceful "water bomber." A refitted Transall (above) has already proved an effective firefighter over large areas. In four seconds it douses a 7,000-square-metre area with 12,000 litres of water. And it takes a mere four minutes (below) to refill the tanks. (Dad photo)

USSR, allies propose nuclear de-escalation

GENEVA, Feb. 6 (R)—The Soviet Union and six of its allies today proposed negotiations to stop production of all nuclear weapons and gradually eliminate stockpiles.

Soviet representative Viktor Issraelyan, introducing the proposal on behalf of the group to the new 40-nation Geneva Disarmament Committee, pressed for negotiations on the rundown nuclear weapons to start this year.

Preparatory talks could start

during the committee's current session, scheduled to end next April 27, "with a view to beginning negotiations on the substance of the problem in 1979," he said.

The proposal was detailed in a working document co-sponsored by Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Mongolia and Poland as well as the Soviet Union.

The paper said the stages of nuclear disarmament could include a halt to improvements in weapons, an end to production of fissionable military nuclear material, and gradual reduction of accumulated stockpiles of nuclear weapons and "delivery vehicles."

Raising an issue which has been a major obstacle between East and West in previous disarmament efforts, Mr. Issraelyan said: "It will be necessary to elaborate in each specific case mutually acceptable verification measures as well."

Eritrea ready to negotiate?

CAIRO, Feb. 6 (R)—A leader of one of Eritrea's liberation fronts has expressed a willingness to negotiate with the Ethiopian leaders without preconditions, but reiterated Eritrean independence remained a basic demand.

Ahmed Nasser, leader of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Revolutionary Council (ELF-RC), in an interview with the official Middle East News Agency (MENA) in Khartoum said: "If we enter negotiations with the Ethiopians this does not mean we are giving up our national and legitimate objectives."

Asked if Eritreans wanted independence for Ethiopia's northernmost province immediately or in stages, Mr. Nasser said this could be worked out during negotiations, the agency reported.

"What is important is to achieve through peaceful means what we are trying to achieve through the armed struggle," MENA quoted Mr. Nasser as saying.

ZANLA guerrillas praised by whites held as prisoners

SALISBURY, Feb. 6 (R)—Two whites yesterday told a news conference organised by the Rhodesian Government that black nationalist leader Robert Mugabe was a humane and decent man, and his guerrilla forces well-disciplined.

Rhodesian Foreign Ministry officials looked distinctly embarrassed as the two men, British-born James Black and South African Johannes Maartens, spoke favourably of the treatment they received as captives of Mr. Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army (ZANLA).

The audience of Rhodesian and international correspondents was also told by Mr. Black that ZANLA military chief Josiah Tongogara was a "humorous chap" who seemed very dedicated.

Rhodesian whites have been encouraged by their government over six years of war to believe Mr. Mugabe and Mr. Tongogara are fanatical and ruthless agents of Marxism, and their forces an ill-disciplined rabble bent only on murder, rape and looting.

Mr. Black, 47, and Mr. Maartens, 54, were released three days

ago in Maputo by Mr. Mugabe with two other white prisoners.

Mr. Maartens, who was taken into Mozambique last March, said he had met Mr. Mugabe three times. He told a questioner: "I find him a very humane, very decent man as far as I'm concerned."

Said Mr. Black: "Mugabe was a highly articulate and pleasant man when I spoke to him."

Asked about the morale of ZANLA forces, he said: "That rather surprised me. They have a very high morale and high discipline."

Rhodesia frequently accuses guerrillas fighting the biracial transitional government of winning support from blacks in bush war zones through intimidation and fear.

But Mr. Black, who was held in an African reservation inside Rhodesia by the guerrillas after being kidnapped six months ago, said he was amazed by the reception the villagers gave the insurgents.

"Relations were quite good at that stage. They (the villagers) were waving and saying hello."

Asked if it was relationship of fear, he retorted: "No, not at all."

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With aim of removing Amin

New movement pledges more attacks in Uganda

NAIROBI, Feb. 6 (R)—A Ugandan resistance movement which claims responsibility for bombings in Kampala at the weekend said today its saboteurs were still free in Uganda and there would be more attacks.

A spokesman for the newly-announced Save Uganda Movement (SUM) in Nairobi told Reuters that Ugandan President Idi Amin's statement that he had

captured all the exiles involved in the sabotage attacks was false. "There will be more attacks," the spokesman said.

Uganda Radio, monitored in Nairobi, said yesterday all those involved in the series of explosions were arrested and had confessed they were sent into Uganda by President Julius Nyerere of neighbouring Tanzania.

The radio modified its state-

ment today, referring only to saboteurs "so far captured."

It repeated yesterday's claim that the weekend bombings, which Kampala residents said interrupted electricity and water supplies and set a fuel storage tank on fire were not a result of internal unrest but infiltration from abroad.

Residents of the Ugandan capital contacted by telephone said yesterday that several people were killed when soldiers opened fire at passers-by following the explosions.

The SUM spokesman, who said yesterday the movement distributed leaflets in Kampala at the weekend calling for President Amin's overthrow, said there was strong backing for the movement in Uganda.

It claims to have been "born in Uganda to kill Amin and his mercenary henchmen," and has called on "all indigenous Ugandan soldiers to point their guns at Mr. Amin. 'We are determined to have genuine peace in our part of the world by getting rid of Amin,'" the spokesman said.

S. Africa objects to U.N. choice of nationalities for Namibia force

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 6 (R)—South Africa has rejected a proposal to include troops from Sweden and Finland in the U.N. force for Namibia (South West Africa) but it has agreed to a contingent from communist Romania, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

The sources said Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim was trying to persuade South Africans to change their minds about the inclusion of Nordic troops. Nordic nations have been among the leading contributors to U.N. peace forces over the years.

Mr. Waldheim conferred jointly with representatives of the three Western permanent member states of the Security Council and

Canada and West Germany, and separately, with the Romanian delegate, Teodor Marinescu. The Western five negotiated the Namibia independence settlement.

Mr. Waldheim's special representative, Martti Ahtisaari, is in southern Africa discussing the plan with leaders of Angola, Botswana, Tanzania, Mozambique and Zambia.

Diplomatic sources said the composition of the 7,500-man U.N. force—known officially as the military component of the U.N. Transition Assistance Group that will supervise and control post-independence elections in Namibia—was posing some problems because of South Africa's

objections to certain nationalities.

Although the permanent members of the Security Council are seldom the secretary-general's first choice when he is looking for potential donors of peacekeeping troops, the sources said he might ask for British and French contingents.

Austria was another likely contributor. Commander-designate of the force is Major-General Hannes Philipp, an Austrian.

Mexico and Venezuela were said to be under consideration as Latin American donors of forces. The U.N. tries to observe the principle of broad regional representation in its peace-keeping armies.

World News Briefs

Disastrous floods sweep across Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, Feb. 6 (R)—Floods in Brazil have killed at least 106 people and left thousands homeless, according to officials reaching Rio de Janeiro. The known dead were all in the southern state of Minas Gerais, where the rain-swollen San Francisco and Jequitinhonha Rivers have put 140 cities and towns under water, isolated 32 from contact with the outside world. An estimated 100,000 people in Minas Gerais state are homeless, the reports say. Another southern state, Espirito Santo, the floods drove thousands more from their homes and cut off supplies of drinking water and electricity. Heavy flooding was also reported in northern Rio de Janeiro state but no official figures for dead or homeless were immediately available. Weather reports from the affected area cast no respite from the rain.

Taiwan's security versus U.S.-China ties

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (R)—The Carter administration has told Congress that the president would not approve action to guide Taiwan's security if it conflicted with Washington's new relations with Peking. At a hearing of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the administration was repeatedly attacked for omitting Taiwanese security from legislation purporting U.S. relations with the Taiwan on a non-government footing. But Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher told the committee the administration believed congressional action to safeguard Taiwan's security unnecessary and said the president would be unable to take action incompatible with normalization of relations with China. He warned that any resolution seeking to give an official U.S. relations with Taiwan would contradict the new basis of U.S. relations. Because of the near-certainty that Congress would pass a resolution on Taiwan, however, Mr. Christopher pointed work with the committee on its wording.

Italian town sues Swiss chemical plant

GENEVA, Feb. 6 (R)—Local authorities of Seveso, the northern town polluted after a chemical factory explosion in July 1976, began a law suit against the Swiss owners of the plant, a magistrate said yesterday. The Swiss firm Chivaudan, part of the Hoffman La Roche group, has until March 1980 to draw up a plan. More than 700 people were moved from Seveso after the explosion which released a cloud of highly-toxic dioxin. Thousands of birds and animals died within days and 500 children suffered from chloracne, a skin disfigurement caused by dioxin, for months after the explosion. Authorities in Italy's Lombardy region have estimated the total of damage caused by the blast and pollution at \$103 million.

Moroccan teachers begin 3-day strike

RABAT, Feb. 6 (R)—Morocco's 68,000 primary and secondary school teachers were called out yesterday on a 72-hour strike, affecting more than two million children in state schools. The strike, called by the left-wing "Syndicat National de l'Enseignement" union, among other things, claims for a wage increase, lower management age, the release of political prisoners and respect for union freedom. Nearly 2,000 professors in higher education institutions are due to begin the strike today, which follows a two-day walk-out last April. The strike has been denounced by the government teachers' union "Federation Autonome de l'Enseignement" as the work of agitators trying to prevent a reform of the education system, while the pro-government daily "Le Matin" said the strike was fomented by minorities whose claims were also illegal and anti-democratic.

Proposed legislation may broaden U.S. arms

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (R)—The chairman of a key Senate committee on international finance introduced legislation yesterday to pave the way for more normal trade relations with both the Soviet Union and China. The bill, by Senator Adlai Stevenson, would current restrictions preventing most favored nation trading with two communist countries and prohibitions against granting credit. It would authorize up to \$2 billion of credit from the Export-Import Bank for exports to any communist state. The Soviet Union now is restricted to \$300 million. Most favored nation trade treatment, which provides low tariffs, is denied the Soviet Union as a result of a 1974 law which ties a relaxation of freedom of emigration. Senator Stevenson's legislation would permit President Carter to determine whether a country eased its emigration policies.

Convicted assassin breaks jail, recaptured

ALDERSON, West Virginia, Feb. 6 (R)—Sara Jane Moore, a life sentence for trying to kill former president Gerald R. Ford, escaped from jail here but was recaptured by police a few hours later. Police said Ms. Moore and another inmate were found early in the resort town of White Sulphur Springs, 30 kilometers from Alderson. Moore, 34, was sentenced to life in prison in 1975 for the single shot which killed Mr. Ford as he walked out of a San Francisco hotel in September 1975. She was recaptured about two hours after she escaped. Police caught the two after a motorist, believed to be a hitch-hiker, drove them into White Sulphur Springs.

Italy cracks down on tax-dodgers

By Norris Willatt

MILAN—Italians have a piquant pastime at this season of the year—checking the newspaper to see if any of their neighbours are tax-dodgers.

The press is cooperating in a new drive to close the many loopholes in Italy's tax system. It publishes names of people who are alleged to have understated their income, or who in some cases have not filed a return at all, and quotes the amount of unpaid tax.

Tax offices are giving the newspapers the information to scare delinquents and discourage others who might be tempted to follow their example.

Some of the case histories are revealing. In the case of the wealthy widow who reported an income of only a few hundred pounds a year when the revenue men claimed she actually was receiving several tens of thousands, the industrialists who underestimated their annual earnings by 50 to 75 per cent, and the engineers in good jobs who "forgot" to make any returns at all.

However entertaining to prying neighbours, publication of this kind of data must be highly embarrassing to the people

concerned—which, of course, is the object of the exercise. And if some people might accuse the Italian tax men of playing rough, their defence would probably be that they go to such drastic lengths for the lack of more orthodox means to bring delinquents to book.

Tax dodging is widespread, and the means to cope with it inadequate, partly through a lack of staff. In the past, evasion has been most common in the field of personal income tax, and especially on the part of the self-employed.

However, with the introduction of a Value Added Tax (VAT) a few years ago, evasion reached a new peak, particularly by professional people, small shopkeepers and independent artisans.

The Internal Revenue Service is planning a counter-offensive against the army of delinquents. At the end of last year, the Minister of Finance, Franco Maria Malfatti, announced a three-year programme of overhaul and reorganisation of the service. In his own words, this would be put on a "war footing" between now and the end of 1981.

This will involve a reform of the administration, the restructuring of the offices around the country, and a policy of improving the qual-

If you fail to report your full income to the Italian tax authorities, or do not bother to file a return at all, you could find your name in the paper. This is one of the new weapons being used to tighten up Italy's notoriously inefficient tax system.

ifications of the personnel. The staff will be increased by some 10,000 to about 60,000, of whom 4,500 will be assigned to checking tax returns (or the lack of them).

In addition, 13 new centres will be opened around the country, equipped with electronic data processing and other automated facilities for quicker and more effective checking and computer checking. The whole campaign will be conducted by a general secretary, a newly created supervisory agency.

The justification for such a programme, the Internal Revenue Service could argue, is underlined by the cases of tax-dodging recently published in the Milan press. These, it is claimed, are dup-

licated in large and small communities all over Italy.

A certain industrialist claimed that in 1974 he had an income of only 24.5m. lire (around £15,000). Investigation by the tax men resulted, first, in an assessment on income of 60m. lire, later raised to 100m. lire.

A company manager who reported an income of 14m. lire (about £8,750) had the figure raised to 50m. lire. In the typical case of an artisan, the Internal Revenue Service estimated that he had earned four times the figure he reported to the bureau.

The wealthy widow who pretended to be not so wealthy claimed that in the same year (all data are for 1974) she had an

income of only 430,000 lire (about £268), which would have put her well below the poverty line, even if she was living in Italy's deep south instead of affluent Milan. The tax men claimed she must have had at least 100m. lire coming in.

In raising the assessments—in some cases many times over—the authorities take into account the lifestyle of the individuals, who apparently do not exercise discretion in this respect. Some notable good lives do not even bother to file tax returns.

It may be unfair to judge a whole profession by a few cases, but from the examples cited in the press, Italian engineers are apt to be rather careless about reporting their income for tax purposes. In one case where no return was filed, an engineer was assessed on an income of 50m. lire (about £30,000); in another, on 120m. lire (about £75,000). Merchants, doctors and restaurant owners were other categories to come under suspicion.

With so numerous, bold and resourceful an "enemy," the Internal Revenue Service obviously will have to fight hard and long to win its war. Precise data on tax evasion are hard to come by, but it is suggested that as many as

four million Italians may be quiet in the payment of income tax. In the case the total may be even higher.

The loss of the Italian in 1978 has been estimated as 40,000b. lire or the equivalent of £250b; equal to 10 per cent of the total income of the country.

The treasury has estimated that the result of its three-year drive on it will be able to recover at least part of its losses. At least part of its losses. At least part of its losses. At least part of its losses.

When its new investigation in full operation, the check some 600,000 a year, equally divided between income tax and VAT. Italian tax-dodgers in three years, at the most, other ways. That is the official line. But many Italian officials about results are disappointed. Against expectations, against expectations, against expectations.

They also wonder if adding 10,000 more to the payroll of the IRS will be up to a certain point of national revenue that has long to win its war. Precise data on tax evasion are hard to come by, but it is suggested that as many as